Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Message Text

PAGE 01 TOKYO 11787 221243Z

44 42
ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 /023 W
---------- 030295
R 221000Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2725
INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 11787

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ELAB, JA, ILO, MARR, KS
SUBJ: JAPANESE LABOR LEADER STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF KOREA AND US-JAPAN SECURITY TREATY IN MEETING WITH CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ

SUMMARY: IN MEETING WITH CONGRESSMAN STEPHEN SOLARZ AND LABATT, STEELWORKERS FEDERATION PRESIDENT MIYATA SAID SECURITY OF SOUTH KOREA VERY IMPORTANT TO JAPANESE NATIONAL INTEREST, REAFFIRMED HIS SUPPORT OF US-JAPAN SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS, SAW LITTLE PROSPECT OF OPPOSITION PARTIES SOON COMING TO POWER IN JAPAN AND INDIRECTLY CRITICIZED AFL-CIO PROPOSAL THAT US WITHDRAW FROM ILO.

1. AT PRIVATE LUNCHEON MEETING WITH US FRESHMAN CONGRESSMAN STEPHEN SOLARZ AND LABATT AUG 14, YOSHIJI MIYATA, CHAIRMAN OF JAPANESE STEELWORKERS FEDERATION (TEKKO RENEN) AND PRESIDENT OF 1.8 MILLION MEMBER INTERNATIONAL METALWORKERS FEDERATION-JAPAN COUNCIL (IMF-JC) SAID HE FULLY AGREED WITH PRIMIN MIKI'S STATEMENT IN WASHINGTON THAT ROK'S SECURITY IS IMPORTANT TO JAPAN. CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ (APPARENTLY PLAYING "DEVIL'S ADVOCATE") ASKED WHY JAPAN SHOULD WORRY EVEN IF ENTIRE KOREAN PENINSULA COMMUNIZED SINCE PRESENCE OF US SEVENTH FLEET IN KOREAN STRAITS WOULD KEEP NORTH KOREANS FROM INVADING JAPAN. MIYATA SAID THAT HIS CONCERN FOR SOUTH KOREA'S SECURITY STEMS NOT SO MUCH FROM FEAR OF ATTACK FROM COMMUNIZED KOREAN PENINSULA. RATHER, HE RECOGNIZES THAT MAINTENANCE OF CAPITALIST SOUTH KOREAN
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TOKYO 11787 221243Z

IMPORTANT TO JAPANESE ECONOMY, WORRIED THAT NORTH KOREAN TAKEOVER OF SOUTH WOULD LEAD TO INFLUX OF LARGE NUMBERS OF HARD TO ASSIMILATE KOREAN REFUGEES AND SEES PVSIBILITY OF COMMUNIST TAKEOVER OF KOREA CREATING DOMESTIC POLITICAL DISTURBANCES IN JAPAN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

WHICH COULD PLACE DEMOCRATIC FORM OF GOVERNMENT IN SERIOUS JEOPARDY. MIYATA ARGUED THAT THEREFORE JAPAN, AS LEADING "FREE COUNTRY" OF ASIA, COULD NOT REMAIN INDIFFERENT TO THREAT OF COMMUNIST TAKEOVER OF SOUTH KOREA.

2. WHEN ASKED FOR HIS VIEWS ON US-JAPAN SECURITY RELATIONSHIP, MIYATA SAID HE WAS ONLY MAJOR LABOR LEADER IN JAPAN OPENLY TO SUPPORT TREATY AS ESSENTIAL TO JAPAN'S DEFENSE. HE NOTED THAT MOST OTHER LABOR LEADERS, ALTHOUGH PUBLICLY ADVOCATING REVISION OR EVEN OUTRIGHT SCRAPPING OF TREATY, PRIVATELY SUPPORT IT BECAUSE, LIKE MOST JAPANESE, THEY FEEL FAMILIAR WITH IT AS KNOWN QUANTITY (HE TERMED IT "COMFORTABLE AS LUKEWARM BATH") AND FEAR WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF "SECURITY BLANKET" WERE REMOVED. MIYATA PREDICTED THAT IF AND WHEN MAJOR OPPOSITION PARTIES COME TO BELIEVE THEY HAVE SERIOUS CHANCE OF GAINING POLITICAL POWER IN JAPAN, PUBLIC OPINION PRESSURES WOULD FORCE THEM TO ADOPT RELATIVELY FAVORABLE POSITION ON SECURITY TREATY.

3. WHILE CLAIMING NOT TO BE AFFILIATED WITH ANY JAPANESE POLITICAL PARTY, MIYATA THOUGH LDP WOULD CONTINUE IN POWER IN THE NEAR FUTURE BECAUSE COMPETITION AMONG ITS FACTIONS GIVES IT AN IMAGE OF VITALITY AND DIVERSITY WHICH PAYS OFF AT POLLS. WHEN ASKED WHETHER AN OPPOSITION COALITION WAS IN THE WIND, MIYATA SAID THAT IN NEXT LOWER HOUSE ELECTION DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS (DSP), SOCIALISTS (JSP) AND KOMEITO MAY COOPERATE IN SPECIFIC ELECTRAL DISTRICTS BUT ARE IN NO POSITION TO FORM OVERALL ELECTORAL ALLIANCE. HE RULED OUT ANY PROSPECT OF SERIOUS LONG TERM COLLABORATION BETWEEN JSP AND COMMUNISTS (JCP), SINCE SUCH AN ALLIANCE WOULD CAUSE JSP MODERATES IMMEDIATELY TO BOLT PARTY. MIYATA SAID THAT WHILE JCP AT PRESENT COMMITTED TO ELECTORAL PROCESS AS MEANS OF GAINING POLITICAL POWER AND TO MAINTENANCE OF INDEPENDENT LINE VIS A VIS PRC AND USSR, FALL FROM POWER OR DEATH OF JCP CHAIRMAN MIYAMOTO. MIGHT WELL RESULT IN PARTY'S QUICKLY ABANDONING BOTH OF THESE POLICIES.

4. SOLARZ NOTED THAT AFL-CIO WALKED OUT OF ILO ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN JUNE AND IS NOW PRESSURING CONGRESS TO ELIMINATE US CONTRIBUTION FROM THIS YEAR'S BUDGET AND TO AUTHORIZE US WITHDRAWAL FROM CONFIDENTIAL

ORGANIZATION. WHILE PROFESSING GREAT ADMIRATION OF PRESTIGE AND POWER BOTH DOMESTICALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY OF AFL-CIO PRES MEANY AND ADMITTING VALIDITY OF US VIEW THAT ILO UNDULY POLITICIZED, MIYATA DEPLORED SUCH MOVES. HE NOTED THAT JAPANESE LABOR MOVEMENT ATTACHES CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE TO ILO AS ONE OF ITS WINDOWS ON THE WORLD AND FEARS THAT US WITHDRAWAL FROM ILO WOULD CAUSE EVENTUAL COLLAPSE OF ILO. MIYATA REGRETTED THAT AFL-CIO SO FAR HAS NOT MADE ANY SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR REFORM OF ORGANIZATION.

5. COMMENT: MIYATA, ONE OF JAPAN'S MOST POWERFUL LABOR LEADERS, HAS PLAYED FOR LAST DECADE KEY ROLE IN SLOW BUT STEADY EFFORT TO REGROUP ALL MAJOR PRIVATE SECTOR LABOR UNIONS IN ORGANIZATION ESCHEWING MARXISM AND COMMITTED TO MODERATE POLITICAL

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

COURSE FOR JAPAN. NEVERTHELESS, MIYATA IS PROBABLY EXAGGERATING
DEGREE TO WHICH OTHER MAJOR LABOR LEADERS SHARE HIS VIEWS ON KOREA
AND JAPANESE DEFENSE. WE BELIEVE THAT THE LEADERSHIP OF MOST IF
NOT ALL DOMEI AND IMF-JC AFFILIATED UNIONS (TO WHICH BULK OF ORGAN-
IZED LABOR IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR BELONGS) UNDOUBTEDLY WOULD ENDORSE
HIS VIEWS, AT LEAST WHEN THEY ARE SPEAKING PRIVATELY. HOWEVER,
THE POWERFUL SOHYO AFFILIATED PUBLIC EMPLOYEE UNIONS -- THE
PEOPLE WHO BROUGHT US THE 1960 DEMONSTRATIONS--STILL STRONGLY OPPOSE
THE SECURITY TREATY AS WELL AS ANY JAPANESE ROLE IN DEFENSE OF
THE ROK.
HODGSON

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR RELATIONS, COLLECTIVE SECURITY AGREEMENTS, CODELS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TOKYO11787
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750291-0536
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750898/baaaafxg.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <17 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: ELAB, MARR, JA, KS, US, ILO, (SOLARZ, STEPHEN), (MIYATA)
To: STATE INFO JAKARTA
MANILA
SEOUL
CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006